




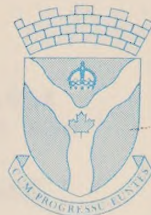
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REPORT TO PLANNING COMMITTEE

POPULATION TRENDS IN OTTAWA-CARLETON
1976-1981

INTRODUCTION

The final population counts from the 1981 Census of Canada were officially released by Statistics Canada on March 30, 1982. The purpose of this report is to present a brief review, based on these recently released census data, of some of the key population changes which occurred in the Ottawa-Carleton region in the 1976 to 1981 period.

DISCUSSION

OVERVIEW - Ottawa-Carleton In the Context of Canadian
Population Growth Trends

The population of Canada grew by some 1,350,600 persons between 1976 and 1981 or by 5.9%. The Ottawa-Carleton region grew by over 26,000 persons or a growth rate of 5.1 per cent, slightly less than the national growth rate between 1976 and 1981. The growth rate of 5.1 per cent observed in Ottawa-Carleton however, was higher than the population growth rate of 4.4 per cent in the Province of Ontario. In fact the Ottawa-Carleton region exhibited the third highest growth rate of all census metropolitan areas in Ontario, surpassed only by the CMA's of Oshawa and Toronto at 14.1 and 7.0 per cent respectively.

The population growth rate experienced in Ottawa-Carleton though was far below the growth rates experienced in the census metropolitan areas of the Western provinces of British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The large cities in these "growth" provinces experienced rates well in excess of the national average. The largest population growth rate was observed in Calgary, Alberta, with an increase of 25.7 per cent since the 1976 census.

Interestingly, the Ottawa-Carleton regional growth rate was lower than the population growth rates of both Quebec City (6.3%) and St. John's, Nfld., (6.5%) in Eastern Canada.

POPULATION TRENDS IN OTTAWA CARLETON

In the period 1976 to 1981 the population of Ottawa-Carleton grew from approximately 521,000 to nearly 547,000 or an increase of some 26,000 persons (Table 1).

TABLE 1

POPULATION GROWTH BY MUNICIPALITY 1976-1981

<u>MUNICIPALITY</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE 1981-1976</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>
OTTAWA	304,462	295,163	-9,299	-3.1
VANIER	19,812	18,792	-1,020	-5.2
ROCKCLIFFE PARK	2,117	1,869	-248	-11.7
	<u>326,391</u>	<u>315,824</u>	<u>-10,567</u>	<u>-3.2</u>
NEPEAN	76,892 A	84,361	7,469	9.7
GLOUCESTER	56,516	72,859	16,343	28.9
KANATA	13,058 A	19,728	6,670	51.1
CUMBERLAND	12,377	16,177	3,800	30.7
	<u>158,843</u>	<u>193,125</u>	<u>34,282</u>	<u>21.6</u>
WEST CARLETON	8,904	9,929	1,025	11.5
GOULBOURN	8,761 A	9,559	798	9.1
OSGOODE	8,957	9,360	403	4.5
RIDEAU	8,677	9,052	375	4.3
	<u>35,299</u>	<u>37,900</u>	<u>2,601</u>	<u>7.4</u>
OTTAWA-CARLETON REGION	520,533	546,849	26,316	5.1

A: THE POPULATION FIGURES RECORDED FOR 1976 ARE BASED ON 1981 MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES. THE 1981 POPULATION FIGURES FOR GOULBOURN, KANATA AND NEPEAN REFLECT THE POPULATION AFTER THE CREATION OF THE CITY OF KANATA.

SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA,
1981 CENSUS OF CANADA,
MARCH 30, 1982

This growth in population however, was not uniform throughout the region. The major share of the increase took place in the urbanizing municipalities comprised of the Cities of Gloucester, Nepean and Kanata and the Township of Cumberland (Table 2).

TABLE 2

MUNICIPAL POPULATION CHANGE EXPRESSED AS A
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL GROWTH IN OTTAWA-CARLETON:
1976-1981

<u>MUNICIPALITY</u>	<u>% SHARE</u>
OTTAWA	-35.3
VANIER	-3.9
ROCKCLIFFE PARK	-0.9
	<hr/>
	-40.2
NEPEAN	28.4
GLOUCESTER	62.1
KANATA	25.3
CUMBERLAND	14.4
	<hr/>
	130.3
WEST CARLETON	3.9
GOULBOURN	3.0
OSGOODE	1.5
RIDEAU	1.4
	<hr/>
	9.9
	<hr/>
OTTAWA-CARLETON REGION	100.0

Interestingly, net population declines were observed in the central or older urbanized municipalities comprised of the Cities of Ottawa and Vanier and the Village of Rockcliffe Park.

This is illustrated in Table 3 by the decline in relative share of these municipalities from approximately 63 per cent of the total Ottawa-Carleton population in 1976 to less than 58 per cent by 1981. The rural municipalities comprised of the Townships of West Carleton, Osgoode, Rideau and Goulbourn experienced a collective growth higher than the average growth in the regional municipality for the 1976 to 1981 period.

TABLE 3

POPULATION SHARE EXPRESSED AS A
PERCENTAGE BY MUNICIPALITY

<u>MUNICIPALITY</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	
	<u>1976</u>	<u>1981</u>
OTTAWA	58.5	54.0
VANIER	3.8	3.4
ROCKCLIFFE PARK	0.4	0.3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	62.7	57.8
NEPEAN	14.8	15.4
GLOUCESTER	10.9	13.3
KANATA	2.5	3.6
CUMBERLAND	2.4	3.0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	30.5	35.3
WEST CARLETON	1.7	1.8
GOULBOURN	1.7	1.8
OSGOODE	1.7	1.7
RIDEAU	1.7	1.7
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6.8	6.9
	<hr/>	<hr/>
OTTAWA-CARLETON REGION	100.0	100.0

SOURCE: DERIVED FROM 1981 CENSUS OF CANADA

CENSUS POPULATION VERSUS ASSESSMENT POPULATION

The 1981 census population figures for Ottawa-Carleton are lower than the annual population assessment undertaken by the Provincial Ministry of Revenue.

The 1981 assessment overcounted the Ottawa-Carleton population by nearly 6,700 persons when compared to the results of the 1981 Census. The most serious overcount occurred in the City of Ottawa with a difference in population of nearly 8,000 persons. Smaller overcounts were observed in the City of Vanier (465 persons) and in the Village of Rockcliffe Park (306 persons). Population undercounts were observed in every municipality except in the Township of Osgoode. The most extreme undercount occurred in the City of Gloucester at 945 persons.

The methodological and substantive differences between the two sources of population are numerous.

The first difference between the sources of population information is in terms of the period and date of enumeration.

The 1981 Census was taken on June 3 while the municipal population assessment refers to the period commencing on the Tuesday following the first Monday of September and ending on the 30th day of September as stated in Section 23 of the Assessment Act.

The second difference - a major one - refers to the population base. The annual provincial assessment enumerates students (from outside of Canada or from somewhere else in Canada) and foreign residents (government representatives and members of the armed forces from another country and their families who are not citizens of Canada who reside in rental accommodation). The federal census only enumerate the resident Canadian population, Canadian students are enumerated at their normal place of residence in Canada.

The final reason for the differences between the two sources of information may in part be due to the new enumeration process adopted by the Province of Ontario in September of 1981. This new enumeration procedure results in a partial enumeration of the population in non-election years such as in 1981.

The only segments of the population enumerated are a) residential properties which underwent an ownership change, and b) multiple-residential dwellings defined as structures with seven or more residential units.

This latter situation adds to the differences between the two population sources making comparisons between the two sources virtually impossible.

It is the intention of the Planning Department to employ the results of the 1981 Census in the Official Plan review process since the Federal census provides a multitude of longitudinal demographic and socio-economic data that is fundamental to the planning process.

URBANIZING MUNICIPALITIES

The City of Gloucester accounted for the largest share of the growth in population in the Ottawa-Carleton region. Gloucester's population increased by nearly 29 per cent since 1976 or to a level of nearly 73,000 persons by 1981.

The locations of growth/change within the municipality can be determined through the analysis of recently released 1981 census tract data provided by Statistics Canada. A review of these small area population data indicate that population growth (over 1,000 persons between 1976 and 1981) took place in four distinct areas: Orleans (East Urban Community), Cyrville, Blackburn Hamlet and Blossom Park. It is interesting to note however, that slight declines in population were observed in many of the older suburbs such as Beacon Hill and in the rural portions of the City of Gloucester.

The City of Nepean grew by nearly 7,500 persons during the 1976-1981 period. Most of this growth was associated with the development of a number of residential communities, notably Barrhaven outside of the Greenbelt, and the Craig Henry, Tanglewood, Trend Village and Bells Corners communities inside the outer limit of the Greenbelt.

The City of Nepean though growing in total population also experienced the phenomenon of declining population in certain older neighbourhoods.

Nepean's older neighbourhoods such as Fisher Heights, Parkwood Hills, and St. Claire Gardens underwent a fairly significant decline in population. This change in population is probably associated with the general continuing decline in household sizes associated with changes in family size which have been observed in most urban areas of Canada in the last decade.

This observed decline in family size is directly related to lower rates of fertility. In addition, it is speculated that these neighbourhoods in the City of Nepean have probably reached the later stages of the family life cycle that is, many of the households in these neighbourhoods are at the child-launching and post-child stage of the typical North American family life cycle. The recognized stages of the family life cycle being marriage, pre-child, child-bearing, child-rearing, child-launching, post-child and widowhood.

Slight declines in population were also observed in other older suburban neighbourhoods as well as in the rural portion of the City of Nepean.

The City of Kanata between 1976 and 1981 experienced a 51 per cent increase in population to become the fourth largest municipality in Ottawa-Carleton behind in numerical importance the Cities of Ottawa, Nepean and Gloucester. The growth in this period was primarily located in the residential areas of Beaverbrook/Kanata, Katimavik, Hazeldean, Glen Cairn and Bridlewood.

The Township of Cumberland in the 1976-1981 period increased by nearly 31 per cent in population size. The growth in this period was primarily located in the Orleans (East Urban Community) area. The rural portion of Cumberland Township registered a moderate population increase.

URBAN MUNICIPALITIES

The population of the City of Ottawa - the largest municipality in the Ottawa-Carleton region - decreased by over 9,000 persons between 1976 and 1981 or by over 35 per cent of the regional population growth experienced during the same period (Table 2).

Of significant planning interest is the fact that while the population of the entire municipality declined in the last five years, certain neighbourhoods exhibited population increases. These population increases ranged from slight to significant. For example, by analyzing 1981 census tract population figures for the City of Ottawa, it is apparent that significant population gains occurred in the South Ottawa/Hunt Club community. Moderate increases were experienced in two spatially dissimilar areas - the Central Area of the City and the Carson Grove area at the eastern extremity of the City.

Slight population increases occurred in rank order of importance in: the South Keys community, Riverside Park, Ambleside area in western Ottawa, the Riverview area near Carleton Heights, the western section of the Centretown neighbourhood and in the area around the Alta Vista/Riverside Drive community.

Moderate to significant declines in population occurred in many neighbourhoods of the City of Ottawa though three census tracts embodying three identifiable neighbourhoods stand out. These neighbourhoods are: Carlington and Parkway Park in the western part of the City and Sandy Hill in east central section of Ottawa. Reasons similar to those mentioned in the context of population declines in the City of Nepean probably are operating in these neighbourhoods though in the case of Sandy Hill other socio-economic and demographic factors possibly relating to change in lifestyles, accommodation and location preferences could have resulted in a reduction in household occupancy thereby reducing the population of this neighbourhood.

The population of the City of Vanier declined by approximately 1,000 persons between 1976 and 1981, this decline translates into a 5 per cent loss of population.

The population decrease in the City of Vanier however was not uniform throughout the municipality. An analysis of the 1981 census tract population figures indicates that one census tract in the east central portion of the City exhibited a population increase in excess of 700 persons. This population increase was associated with the completion of the Château Janeville development. However, this population gain was not enough to compensate for the general decline in Vanier's population. The decline in the population of Vanier was directly related to the general reduction in household occupancy which has been occurring in most inner city urban areas of Canadian cities.

This phenomenon was discussed previously in the context of the population decline of certain neighbourhoods of the City of Nepean.

The Village of Rockcliffe Park also experienced a decline (12 per cent) in its resident population in the period 1976 to 1981. This decline was related to a general decline in household occupancy rates.

RURAL MUNICIPALITIES

Of the four predominantly rural municipalities West Carleton Township experienced the largest population growth followed by Goulbourn, Osgoode and Rideau Townships.

Small area population breakdowns are not available for the Township of West Carleton but these data are available for the Townships of Goulbourn, Osgoode and Rideau.

In the case of Goulbourn Township, the five-year population growth was evenly distributed between the Villages of Richmond and Stittsville and the remaining parts of the municipality.

Population growth in the Township of Osgoode though modest was primarily located west of Highway 31.

The population of Rideau Township grew by only 375 persons in the 1976 to 1981 period. However, the population of the census tract incorporating the Village of Manotick declined by nearly 100 persons.

GROWTH RATE

The population growth observed in the Ottawa-Carleton region in the period 1976-1981 translates into an increase of approximately 5,300 persons per year on average or a compound growth rate of approximately 0.99 per cent. These observed rates and levels of growth are significantly lower than the 1961 to 1971 annual average population growth of 11,350 persons and compound rate of 2.8 per cent employed in the Regional Official Plan, as well as the 1971 to 1976 annual average growth of 9,700 persons and compound rate of 2 per cent.

What are the components of population growth which have resulted in the decline in the rate and level of population growth in Ottawa-Carleton? Change in population in any given period is a function of births, deaths and net-migration.

The numerical difference between births and deaths is referred to as natural increase. The relative contribution of both natural increase and net-migration to population growth in the 1961-1981 period is shown in Table 4.

TABLE 4

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION GROWTH
OTTAWA-CARLETON

<u>PERIOD</u>	<u>% NATURAL INCREASE</u>	<u>% MIGRATION</u>
1961-1966	55.4	44.6
1966-1971	38.3	61.7
1971-1976	39.2	60.8
1976-1981	66.6	33.4

SOURCE: MINISTRY OF TREASURY AND ECONOMICS, DEMOGRAPHIC
BULLETIN, FEBRUARY, 1978.
VITAL STATISTICS 1978-1980
1981 CENSUS OF CANADA.

It is apparent that natural increase was a larger proportion of population growth in the early 1960's than net-migration.

In the period 1966-1976 natural increase accounted for a smaller proportion of population growth than migration. This change can be attributed to declining levels of fertility associated with the "baby bust" period as well as relatively high levels of migration which occurred in Ottawa-Carleton after 1966. In the period 1976 to 1981 the relative contribution of natural increase to migration reversed, that is, natural increase accounted for nearly 67 per cent of population growth in Ottawa-Carleton. This change in the relationship is mainly related to declining levels of net-migration. Natural increase levels remained virtually constant since the mid 1970's.

It is evident from the above and from previous studies undertaken by the Planning Department that the major demographic factor influencing population growth in the Ottawa-Carleton region is the amount of net in-migration.

Migration is mainly influenced by the rate of job formation; other factors such as socio-cultural and political factors are also a consideration but not to the same extent as the growth in employment.

The lower levels of population growth shown by the 1981 census figures confirm the popular notion that there is a relationship between job creation and the overall level of population growth since the results of our 1981 employment survey indicated that the level of job creation in the 1976-1981 period was roughly one-half that of the 1971-1976 period - a period of relatively high population growth.

One of the key elements to increased population growth in Ottawa-Carleton is the creation of more jobs.

The Planning Department published the report Population Forecasts Ottawa-Carleton: 1976-2001 in October of 1980 which detailed a number of population forecasts for the period 1976 to 2001 for the Ottawa-Carleton region. It is apparent by reference to Annex I, extracted from this report, that the 1981 population as shown by the census falls within the low end of the distribution of population forecasts. The figure of approximately 547,000 falls within the assumption of an annual level of net-migration of less than 2,000 persons. This level of net in-migration is not unexpected in view of the significant Federal government decentralization programs which took place during the 1976-1981 period.

On the other hand, since the decentralization programs of the Federal government are virtually complete and if all other employment grows at the rate observed between 1976-1981, the potential for increased employment growth and induced population migration certainly exists in the next five-year period.

Therefore, the population growth experience of the last five years is not considered a suitable measure of the probable future trend.

The above is for the information of the Planning Committee.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
J. M. WRIGHT

J.M. Wright
Planning Commissioner

OTTAWA-CARLETON: POPULATION¹ AND EMPLOYMENT GROWTH, 1976-2001

1976-2001 POPULATION CHANGE ANNUAL AVERAGE ² ..	ANNUAL NET CONSTANT MIGRATION	1976-2001 EMPLOYMENT GROWTH ANNUAL AVERAGE ²		1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001
		A	B						
2,100	0	2,200	3,100	520,515	543,000	561,000	572,000	576,000	574,000
4,500	2,000	3,400	4,400	520,515	554,000	583,000	606,000	623,000	633,000
5,700	3,000	4,000	5,000	520,515	559,000	594,000	623,000	646,000	663,000
6,900	4,000	4,500	5,600	520,515	564,000	605,000	641,000	669,000	693,000
8,100	5,000	5,100	6,200	520,515	570,000	616,000	658,000	693,000	722,000
9,300	6,000	5,700	6,900	520,515	575,000	628,000	675,000	716,000	752,000
10,500	7,000	6,200	7,500	520,515	580,000	639,000	692,000	739,000	782,000

A. 65% Labour Force Participation Rate and 6% Unemployment Rate

B. 70% Labour Force Participation Rate and 6% Unemployment Rate

1 All forecasts rounded to nearest thousand

2 Rounded to nearest hundred